

Message Text

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12

ACTION EUR-12

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R 171101Z MAR 76 ZDK
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2840
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMCONSUL ADANA
AMCONGEN ISTANBUL
AMCONSUL IZMIR
CINCEUR
USMISSION USNATO
USMISSION USUN
USIA WASHDC
CINCUSAFE
USNMR SHAPE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, TU, CY, GR

SUBJECT: HAIG INTERVIEW WITH HURRIYET; SPECULATION ABOUT
TURKISH-AMERICAN DEFENSE AGREEMENT

1. MASS CIRCULATION HURRIYET WEDNESDAY (MARCH 17) CARRIED
AN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH GENERAL HAIG BY WELL-KNOWN
JOURNALIST METIN TOKER. IN THE INTERVIEW, WHEN ASKED
ABOUT THE ARMS EMBARGO ON TURKEY, GENERAL HAIG REPORTEDLY
SAID: "MY POSITION IN RELATION TO THE EMBARGO HAS BEEN VERY
CLEAR FROM THE BEGINNING. THE DECISION WAS NOT CONSTRUCTIVE
AT ALL. IT IS NOT CONSTRUCTIVE FROM THE MILITARY ANGLE....
BUT PERSONALLY, FROM A WIDER ANGLE, I THINK IT WAS COMPLETELY
UNPRODUCTIVE BECAUSE IT ONLY MADE MORE DIFFICULT THE PROBLEMS
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WE WANT SOLVED." QUESTIONED ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF THE

AMERICAN BASES IN TURKEY FOR NATO AND U.S. SECURITY, GENERAL HAIG RESPONDED: "I WOULD LIKE TO ASSURE YOU THAT THESE BASES, MOST OF THEM BUILT UNDER BILATERAL AGREEMENTS, WERE MOSTLY PLANNED TO MEET THE COMMON NEEDS OF THE ALLIANCE AS A WHOLE, AND THEY CONTRIBUTE, DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, TO THE ASECURITY OF THE ALLIANCE AS A WHOLE." GENERAL HAIG ALSO EMPHASIZED THAT THE BASES POSED NO PROBLEM FOR TURKEY'S SECURITY BUT WERE NECESSARY FOR HER SECURITY. IN THE INTERVIEW HAIG ALSO WAS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT THE DANGER IN THE FUTURE AROSE IN THE FLANKS OF NATO AND THE ALLIANCE SHOULD NOT CONCENTRATE ON CENTRAL EUROPE ALONE IN PLANNING ITS FUTURE STRATEGY. HAIG CONCLUDED BY SAYING THAT TURKISH-AMERICAN RELATIONS WILL IMPROVIE IN THE SPRING.

2. MANY TURKISH DAILIES WEDNESDAY ALSO GAVE MODERATE COVERAGE TO SPECULATIVE STORIES ON THE AMOUNT OF "DEFENSE SUPPORT" THE U.S. WOULD BE GIVING TO TURKEY IN RETURN FOR THE USE OF THE INSTALLATIONS. MILLIYET'S AYTEKIN YILDIZ REPORTED THAT THE TURKISH NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY WOULD BE DISCUSSING FONMIN CAGLAYANGIL'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON AND THE STANCE TO BE TAKEN ON THE SUPPORT ISSUE. ACCORDING TO YILDIZ, TURKEY WISHES TO RECEIVE DOLS 1 BILLION PER YEAR FOR FIVE YEARS; THE U.S. REPORTEDLY WANTS THE AGREEMENT TO BE FOR THREE YEARS AND IS WILLING TO PAY DOLS 250 MILLION, WITH 50 MILLION IN GRANT AND THE REST A LONG TERM LOAN. YILDIZ NOTED THAT THE NEW AGREEMENT CALLS FOR CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL OF MONETARY ASPECTS AND THAT CHANGES IN THE AGREED TOTALS WOULD BE AN AUTOMATIC CANCELLATION OF THE TREATY.

3. HURRIYET WROTE ON THE SAME SUBJECT THAT THE U.S. AND TURKEY HAD AGREED TO DOLS 1 BILLION OVER A FIVE YEAR PERIOD, I.E., 200 MILLION PER YEAR. GUNAYDIN ALSO CLAIMS THE FIGURE IS 1 BILLION BUT TO BE PAID OUT OVER A FOUR YEAR PERIOD. MACOMBER

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